

ISLAMIC HERITAGE

LEADS THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE UMMAH

ISLAMIC HERITAGE
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Editors

Hasan Bahrom
S. Salahudin Suyurno
Abdul Qayyum Abdul Razak

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Prakata

Sejarah warisan Islam telah memberikan impak yang cukup besar kepada perkembangan dunia hari ini. Ia bukan sahaja memberi sumbangan kepada aspek kerohanian malah turut menyumbang kepada aspek ekonomi, politik, pendidikan, sosial, kesenian, kebudayaan, sains dan teknologi. Perkembangan ini memperlihatkan bahawa pentingnya ketamadunan ilmu kepada ketamadunan dunia. Perkara ini selaras dengan tuntutan al-Quran yang menyatakan dengan jelas bahawa Allah SWT memuji sesiapa yang berusaha menuntut ilmu dan juga bertaqwa kepadaNya. Namun sejak akhir-akhir ini, sumbangan hasil pensejarahan Islam sering dipandang sepi oleh generasi muda. Sejarah warisan Islam tidak lagi dijadikan panduan dan iktibar dalam melebarkan ketamadunan ilmu Islam. Mereka lebih tertumpu kepada ketamadunan Barat yang dikatakan ‘kaya’ dengan khazanah ilmu. Sedangkan kemajuan hari ini seharusnya berlandaskan kepada ketamadunan Islam.

Penelitian atau pengkajian mengenai warisan Islam perlu direncanakan sebagai ketamadunan dunia. Idea-idea baru mengenai sejarah warisan Islam perlu diketengahkan, Oleh yang demikian, menerusi *1st International Islamic Heritage Conference* (IsHeC 2015) dilihat akan dapat membantu kepada perkembangan produksi seterusnya menjana idea-idea baru khususnya untuk memperkayakan kajian dalam bidang sejarah warisan Islam kepada masyarakat. Dengan penganjuran seminar ini secara tidak langsung membantu untuk menjalinkan hubungan antara para sarjana dalam bidang sejarah warisan Islam. Ini adalah satu cabaran dan membuka peluang baru untuk membina satu perpaduan intelektual merentas sempadan dunia.

Buku ini merupakan kompilasi diskusi ilmu antara para ilmuan yang terlibat secara langsung dalam pembentangan kertas kerja mereka dalam *1st International Islamic Heritage Conference* (IsHeC 2015) daripada pelbagai platform ilmu Islam antaranya Kesenian, Ketamadunan, Komunikasi, Pendidikan, Kewangan, Sains dan Teknologi dan lain-lain lagi. Semoga curahan ilmu melalui penulisan ini mampu memberi sumbangan dalam menambah khazanah ilmu Islam kepada masyarakat.

Editor,

1st International Islamic Heritage Conference (IsHeC 2015),

Akademi Pengajian Islam Kontemporari,

UiTM Melaka.

Kata Aluan Rektor UiTM Melaka

Dengan Nama Allah Yang Maha Pemurah Lagi Maha Pengasih
Assalamu'alaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh

Segala puji bagi Allah, Tuhan seru sekalian alam, dengan limpah kurniaNya serta keizinanNya, kejayaan penganjuran *1st International Islamic Heritage Conference 2015* yang berlangsung di Hotel Mahkota Melaka pada 11-12 November 2015, telah menghasilkan banyak kertas kerja yang amat bermutu. Justeru, buku ini mengumpulkan puluhan penulisan para ilmuan dan cendekiawan dari dalam dan luar negara untuk bacaan semua.

Pelbagai isu telah dikupas termasuklah perihal seni Islam, budaya, politik, gendar, pendidikan, sejarah, kemasyarakatan, sains dan teknologi, ekonomi, kewangan, falsafah, bahasa dan komunikasi, kedermawanan dan pengurusan. Pembaca juga akan mendapati buku ini memuatkan kajian-kajian yang komited melaksanakan usaha mengintegrasikan antara ilmu duniawi dan ukhrawi. Ini membuktikan kesegaran keilmuan tamadun Islam itu sendiri.

Semoga perkongsian ilmu ini dapat meningkatkan komitmen umat dalam memartabatkan perintah Ilahi dalam kehidupan duniawi sebagai jambatan ukhrawi. Sekaligus ia bakal memberi manfaat pada alam sejagat.

Pihak UiTM Melaka merakamkan setinggi-tinggi tahniah dan ucapan terima kasih atas segala sokongan dalam bentuk material, tenaga dan sebagainya dalam merialisasikan seminar ini. Buat semua penaja yang telah memberikan sumbangan kepada wacana ini, sekalung penghargaan diucapkan. Semoga seminar dwi tahunan ini akan terus diperkasakan demi mengangkat martabat umat melalui kecemerlangan tamadun Islam yang diakui telah terbukti diseluruh jagat.

Sekian, terima kasih. Wassalam

PROF. MADYA DR MOHD ADNAN BIN HASHIM

Rektor ,
UiTM Melaka.

DELIVERING CONVENIENT SERVICE AND BETTER ZAKAT DISTRIBUTION MANAGEMENT THROUGH UITM PULAU PINANG eZAKAT SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

Zakat Unit UiTM Pulau Pinang was established in October 2010 to serve as the development, collection and distribution of zakat fund to entitled students (asnaf). This unit will assist the underprivileged students whom categorized as asnaf in the form of tuition fees, living wages, health relief and Aidilfitri assistance. The previous procedures of zakat application are inefficient since the students had to fill up manual forms and going through bureaucracies before being called up for the interview session. The applicants are unenthusiastic to apply for zakat aid because of the incompetent system. Other than that, the prior procedures that are mostly done manually had complicate the Zakat Unit staffs to keep potential asnaf's information, displaying applicant's list for decision making processes, interview calling procedures as well as generating reports for documentation purposes. Therefore, this paper discusses on the application of an online zakat system called eZakat to overcome these major weaknesses. Initial results shows that the use of eZakat has improve efficiency of zakat applications in Zakat Unit. It has also significantly assisted the zakat applicants, Zakat Unit, HEP as well as Treasury Unit staffs of UiTM Pulau Pinang for a better delivery service and a more competent distribution zakat management.

Keywords: eZakat, online zakat system, eZakat application in Malaysia

INTRODUCTION

Zakat, one of the five pillars of Islam is an obligation of every individual Muslim and business sector that fulfill certain conditions and requirements to contribute a specific amount of their wealth to the recipients (asnaf) who qualify to benefit from zakat funds. According to (Kaslam, 2009), zakat acts as a significant economic tool in eliminating poverty as well as creating a proper mechanism to provide assistance to the marginalized and underprivileged Muslim population.

According to (Zayas, 2003) as mentioned by (Kaslam, 2009), there must be a proper mechanism or appointed body to manage the collection, keeping and distribution of zakat fund from all the sources with the highest integrity and responsibility. Therefore, in Malaysia, trusted bodies called State Islamic Religious Councils (SIRCs) are appointed to manage the zakat fund. These zakat institutions are obligate to play a significant role in sustaining socioeconomic justice and eliminating poverty for Muslim people in Malaysia.

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In realizing the social responsibility to assist the underprivileged students in Universiti Teknologi MARA Penang, Unit Zakat UiTM Pulau Pinang was established in October 2010 after a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between Zakat Management Center (PUZ) Penang with Universiti Teknologi MARA Penang has been endorsed. This unit serves as the development, collection and distribution entity to students entitled for zakat fund in UiTM Pulau Pinang. The zakat aid will support the four recipients (asnaf) agreed by Zakat Unit that are the needy, the poor, the converts and the *fisabilillah* in the form of tuition fees, living wages, health relief and Aidilfitri assistance. In addition, the Zakat Unit also responsible in constructing awareness programs, religious lectures and human capital development programs to UiTM staffs and the zakat fund recipients (asnaf).

The previous procedure of applying the zakat aid by the asnaf is inefficient since the students had to fill up manual forms and they needed to go through many processes for endorsement by different division before their application can be processed. These reasons contributed to many potential recipients refused to apply the zakat fund due to all the difficulties. Other than that, the former procedure complicates the Zakat Unit as they have to re-type all the information in the potential asnaf manual forms before decision making processes, interview calls, reports and documentation preparation and generation.

Therefore, this paper discusses on the application of an online zakat system called eZakat that is focused in providing a well-organized zakat distribution management system and a convenient service to the potential zakat recipients in Universiti Teknologi MARA, Pulau Pinang.

LITERATURE REVIEW

There are many previous studies on zakat distribution management in recent years. Among them are a research done by (Bakar, 2011) that raised concern on the existing zakat distribution management mechanism and suggested a practical mechanism to improve the quality of life for the asnaf. In his paper, he recommended a more effective zakat payment that can be made by focusing on the distribution aspect by the zakat authorities. He outlined two main criterias of this mechanism which are through distribution proportions and distribution forms. He concluded that an excellent zakat distribution mechanism is significant to provide a living for the asnaf.

Another studies by (Lubis, Yaacob, Omar and Dahlan, 2011) founded that the increase in zakat collection does not improve the rate of zakat distribution. He also added that there has been an imbalance of zakat funds in different zakat institutions whereby some institutions are having a surplus finances while others faced shortage of zakat money. Therefore, he proposed an integration between localization and centralized of zakat distribution in Malaysia to achieve zakat funds allocation equality using Geographical Information System (GIS). GIS implementation is said to be capable of analysing statistical and distribution analysis characteristics that can enhanced the decision-making process by the zakat authorities.

A recent study by (Wahab, 2013) investigated the efficiency of zakat institutions in Malaysia during the period of 2003 to 2007. Her research is done due to the growing concern by Muslim community on the effectiveness of zakat bodies in administrating the zakat affairs. She found that attributes such as the number of staff, zakat payment system, computerized zakat system, board size and decentralization are significant in effecting the technical efficiency of zakat institutions. Hence, she concluded that decentralization and a total zakat payment system using computer technology such as an online zakat payment system is very important in creating an effective mechanism for zakat management in Malaysia during the study period.

In addition, another research by (Kaslam, 2009) discovered a new and positive practice in zakat management system in Malaysia through corporatization and Information and Communications Technology (ICT) deployment. In his study, he found that zakat institutions have introduced online zakat system to provide better quality zakat service to

Muslim citizens in Malaysia. He mentioned that this newly introduced electronic service delivery by zakat bodies has improved the zakat collection, information distribution, public involvement, service delivery and extended global communication and networking.

Therefore, from the earlier studies mention previously, it motivate us to investigate on the application of an online zakat system called eZakat in enhancing the service delivery and improving the zakat distribution management system to the zakat asnaf in Universiti Teknologi MARA, Pulau Pinang.

THE PRIOR ZAKAT APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The zakat application starts with the Zakat Unit UiTM Pulau Pinang distributing the zakat aid application circular via staff's email and announcements on notice boards. Interested applicants can browse the UiTM Pulau Pinang website to download the Zakat 3.1 form and fill up the necessary information requested.

Applicants can proceed with sending the completed form via electronic mail to the email address specified on the website. The completed form should also be printed out to be endorsed by the UiTM Pulau Pinang Student's Affair Division (HEP) to ensure that the applicants are free from any disciplinary misconduct and does not receive any financial aid from other sources. Applicants should also get the Penghulu/Imam/JKKK Chairman initials to validate their guardian's income statement.

The Zakat Unit will only process a completed form with all the endorsements required before calling applicants for an interview session. During the interview session, applicants are compulsory to adhere the university attire code of ethics and present good manners. Zakat Unit will conduct a zakat distribution meeting to select zakat fund beneficiaries and a list of successful or unsuccessful applicants will be posted on the Facebook of Unit Zakat UiTM Pulau Pinang, Academy of Contemporary Islamic Studies (ACIS) notice boards as well as HEP notice boards.

Successful zakat applicants will receive their zakat aid money transferred into their bank account through Inter-Bank Giro (IBG) by UiTM Pulau Pinang Treasury Unit after a week from the interview session. All the documentation and records throughout the processes in the zakat application procedures are done manually by the Zakat Unit officer's in-charge. Figure 1 shows the work flow of the prior zakat application procedures in Zakat Unit, UiTM Pulau Pinang.

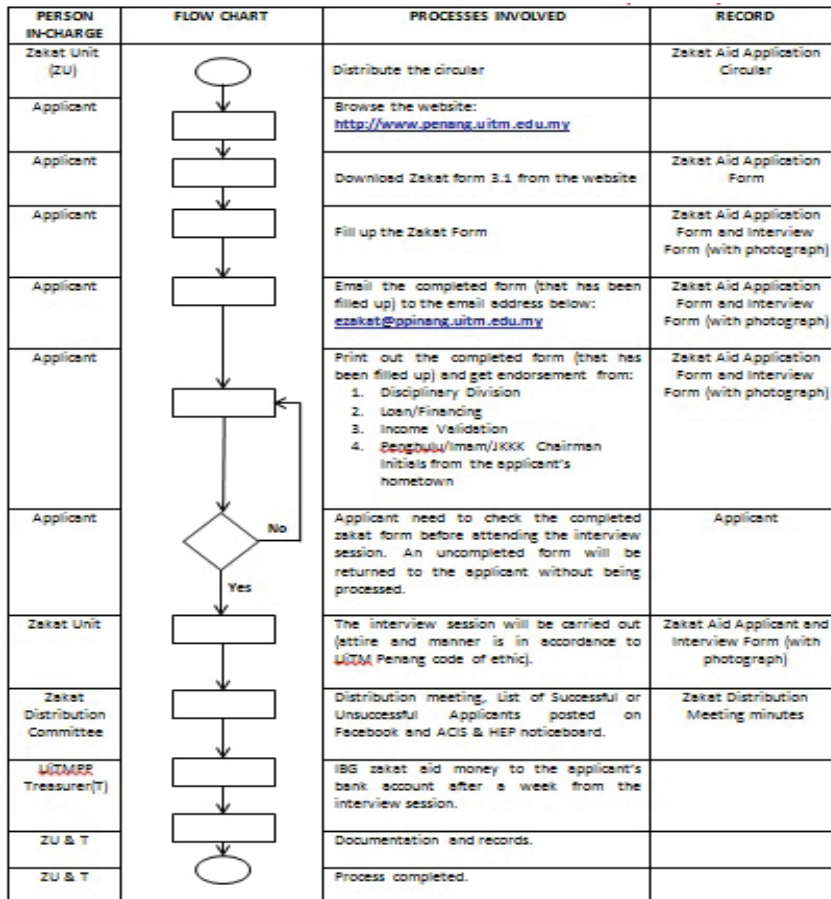


Figure 1: Previous Zakat Application Procedures Flow Chart

DEVELOPMENT OF eZAKAT UiTM Pulau Pinang

eZakat was developed using Apache Web Server. Hypertext Pre-processor (PHP) was used as the server side scripting and MySQL as its database. The development tools used were Macromedia Dreamweaver CS4 and MySQLYog.

The first version of eZakat was developed in 2014 and launched in January 2015. This version was put to test in December 2014 and it had undergone some minor changes on two modules since then. The first modification was done on report generation module which includes the letter of zakat aid approval from UiTM Pulau Pinang Treasury that can be printed out from the system. The second alteration was on the addition of the module to fix for interview date. Up till now, the first version of eZakat with several minor changes and more user-friendly was used.

eZakat Users and Modules

eZakat is used by different categories of users which are the system administrators, Student's Affair Division (HEP) staffs and normal user (zakat aid applicants). This system can be accessed by using a login ID and a password provided by the system administrator as shown in Figure 2 below.

Tarikh Pendaftaran 2015			
UiTM Pempangang Perak		UiTM Bontang	
Tarikh	Hari	Tarikh	Hari
8/1/2015	Khamis	7/1/2015	Rahab
22/1/2015	Khamis	21/1/2015	Rahab
5/2/2015	Khamis	4/2/2015	Rahab
5/3/2015	Khamis	4/3/2015	Rahab
19/3/2015	Khamis	18/3/2015	Rahab
2/4/2015	Khamis	1/4/2015	Rahab

Figure 2: eZakat System Log In

Each category of users has different access level to the system. Once the user has successfully login into the system, eZakat provides the users with the following functions which is illustrated in Figure 3 below:

1. System Maintenance
2. Applicants
3. HEP
4. Application
5. Report Generation

Figure 3: Functions in eZakat System

System Administrator

The system administrators have full access to all functions in eZakat. They can access the maintenance module to add, update and delete the information such as users, semesters, programmes, faculties, meetings and etc. They can also search and list the zakat aid applicants, go through the zakat applications and check into the zakat interview dates fixed by the Zakat Unit administrators. The system administrators are also able to see the zakat aid applications that have been reviewed by Student's Affair Division (HEP) staffs. Finally, they can also generate report for the purpose of documentation whenever necessary. Figure 4 and Figure 5 display some of the functions that can be done by the system administrators.



Bil	Mohon ID	Nama	Tarikh Mohon	Semester	Semakan	Status
1	311427792977	Maya Aqilah Binti Masriah (921020095104)	31-03-2015	Mac - July 2015	Belum Semak	
2	311422724326	Nur Fadzlana Binti Zazali (990706015320)	31-01-2015	Nov - Mac 2015	Kemaskini	Tidak Lulus
3	311422731236	Muhammad Fauzan Agil Bin Muhammad Navar (991217145191)	31-01-2015	Nov - Mac 2015	Kemaskini	Tidak Lulus
4	311422703383	Azzam Asmaulinda Binti Mat Lazim (910429036376)	31-01-2015	Nov - Mac 2015	Belum Semak	
5	311422699313	Muhammad Asmuni Hafizi Bin Zuber (910415146459)	31-01-2015	Nov - Mac 2015	Belum Semak	
6	311422682205	LubnaShahira Bin Abdullah (990111025955)	31-01-2015	Nov - Mac 2015	Kemaskini	Tidak Lulus

Figure 4: List of Zakat Aid Applications



Nama	
No KP	920229015393
No Pelajar	2011607606
Program	Diploma Kejuruteraan Elektrik (Kuewa)
Kampus	UiTM Pematang Pauh
Tarikh Lama	26-03-2015
Tarikh Baru	30-04-2015

Figure 5: Updating Interview Session Date

Student's Affair Division (HEP) staffs

Student's Affair Division (HEP) staffs in-charge to handle this system is given the authority to access the HEP module to validate that the applicants are free from any disciplinary misconduct and does not receive any financial aid from other sources. Figure 6 and Figure 7 below shows the HEP module in eZakat system.



Nama	
No. Pelajar	2013426762
Pelajar pernah dikenakan tatatertib?	<input type="radio"/> Ya <input checked="" type="radio"/> Tidak
Permohonan di sokong atau tidak?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Ya <input type="radio"/> Tidak
Ulasan HEP berkaitan tatatertib pelajar:	
Tanda	
Nama Pegawai HEP	
No. Pekerja Pegawai HEP	

Figure 6: Validation of Applicants Disciplinary Misconducts in HEP module

The screenshot displays the 'Maklumat Bantuan Pelajar' (Student Aid Information) form within the eZakat system. The form is titled 'Maklumat Bantuan Pelajar' and includes the following fields and options:

- Nama:** [Text field]
- No. Pelajar:** 2013426762
- Pelajar mendapat bantuan kewangan?** ☐ Ya ☒ Tidak
- Pemohonan di sokong atau tidak?** ☒ Ya ☐ Tidak
- Ulasan HEP berkaitan tatatib pelajar:** [Text area]
- Nama Pegawai HEP:** [Text field]
- No. Pekerja Pegawai HEP:** [Text field]

At the bottom of the form, there are two buttons: 'Tambah Maklumat Bantuan Pelajar' and 'Senarai Pemohonan'.

Figure 7: Validation of Applicants Other Financial Aid in HEP module

Normal Users (Zakat Aid Applicants)

Students of UiTM Pulau Pinang who wanted to apply for zakat aid can browse the UiTM Pulau Pinang website to enter the eZakat system. Once the student have registered to the system, they will be greeted with a display screen as shown in Figure 8.

The screenshot shows the login screen for the eZakat system. It features a blue header with the text 'Selamat Datang ke Sistem eZakat UiTMPP'. Below the header is a silhouette of a person's head and shoulders. Underneath the silhouette, there is a text prompt: 'Silalah Masukkan Gambar Profil Anda Di Sini'. Below this, there is a form with the following fields:

- Nama:** [Text field]
- No Kad Pengenal:** 920114024321
- No Kad Matrik:** 2013987757
- Program:** Diploma

Below the form, there is a message: 'Pastikan anda membuat permohonan dengan klik [Permohonan Baru](#). Jika tidak, tiada permohonan zakat yang akan dipertimbangkan oleh pihak unit Zakat UiTMPP.'

Figure 8: Registered Zakat Aid Applicants

Students must fill up the e-Zakat online application system as displayed by Figure 9 and Figure 10 below which requires the applicant's:

1. Personal particulars & photograph
2. Family and sibling's information
3. Financial information
 - a) Other financial aid
 - b) Kifayah limitation calculation information
 - c) Monthly expenses estimation

Peribadi Keluarga Adik Beradik

[Kembali ke muka depan...](#)

PENDAFTARAN PELAJAR DIPLOMA

Nama: _____

No Kad Pengenalan: 920114024321 Semak Maklumat Pelajar

(cth: 950808022054 - Selesai isi sila tekan butang semak)

No. Pelajar: _____

Kata Larian: _____ (Pastikan sama)

Sahkan Kata Larian: _____ (Pastikan sama)

Status Muallaf: ☐ Ya ☒ Tidak

Figure 9: Applicants Information required by eZakat System

Peribadi Keluarga Adik Beradik Kewangan

*Pastikan maklumat yang di isi adalah tepat dan benar. Nov - Mac 2015

Adakah anda mendapat bantuan kewangan seperti PTPTN, JPA, MARA atau lain-lain?

☐ Ya ☒ Tidak

Jika ada, sila nyatakan dari mana:

Jumlah per/sem: RM 0.00

Adakah anda pernah mendapat bantuan zakat?

☐ Ya ☒ Tidak

Jika ada, sila nyatakan Tahun:

Jumlah: RM 0.00

Figure 10: Applicants Information on Financial Aid

The completed e-Zakat online application by the students can be submitted for the HEP to do verification on student's disciplinary misconducts and validation of their other financial aid. Students may check the eZakat system from time to time to verify their zakat application status. If the status is "*Cetak*", student must print out the completed online form as shown in Figure 11 and get endorsement from either Penghulu/JKKK Chairman initials from the applicant's hometown or UiTM Pulau Pinang Mosque Iman (for Sabah or Sarawak students).

UNIT ZAKAT, ZAKAT KEMERIAHAN DAN ZAKAT KEMERIAHAN
JAKSEK KEMERIAHAN DAN ZAKAT KEMERIAHAN
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA
43600, SEREMBAN, NEGERI SEMBILAN
TEL: 06-89330000, 06-89330001, 06-89330002
FAX: 06-89330003, 06-89330004, 06-89330005
WWW.ZAKAT.UTM.MY

MAKLUMAT PERSEORANGAN

Nama:

No. Kad Pengenalan:

Tarikh Kelahiran:

Jantina:

Agama:

Alamat:

Sila pastikan nombor telefon rumah dan telefon bimbit anda betul.

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Successful applicants of UiTM Pulau Pinang zakat aid must be presented for the interview session with the verified e-zakat online documents and certificates endorsed by their Academic Advisor (PA).

eZakat Report Printing

The system administrators from the Zakat Unit UiTM Pulau Pinang are able to generate reports for decision making, interview calling and documentation either based on meeting minutes or yearly report. Figure 12 shows some of the reports that can be printed in Microsoft Excel format or pie chart form from this system.

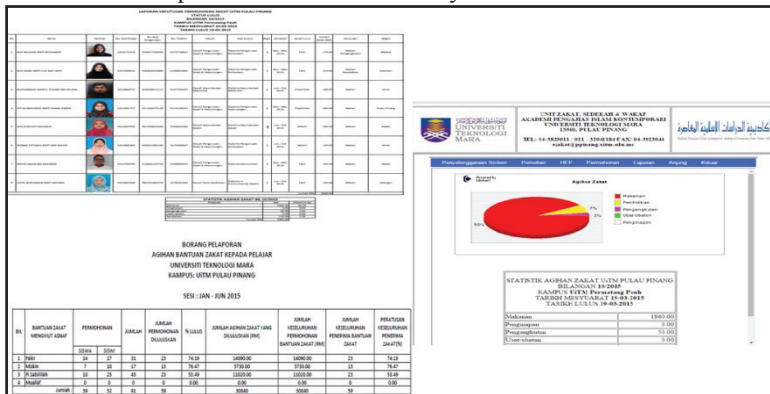


Figure 12: Example of reports generated from eZakat system

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

eZakat has been used since January 2015 to deliver an efficient zakat distribution management system to the Zakat Unit staffs and a convenient service to the potential zakat recipients in Universiti Teknologi MARA, Pulau Pinang. Figure 13 shows the flowchart of eZakat procedures that are more concise and well-organized as compared to the prior application procedures discussed earlier in this paper.

The former procedures consist of many processes that are done manually had complicate the Zakat Unit staffs to save applicant's information, presenting candidate's list for decision making processes, interview calling procedures as well as generating reports for documentation purposes. On top of that, the potential applicants are unenthusiastic to apply for zakat aid because they have to go through many lengthy steps of manual procedures and endorsements before they can be called up for the interview session. These major weaknesses can be overcome through the eZakat online application system.

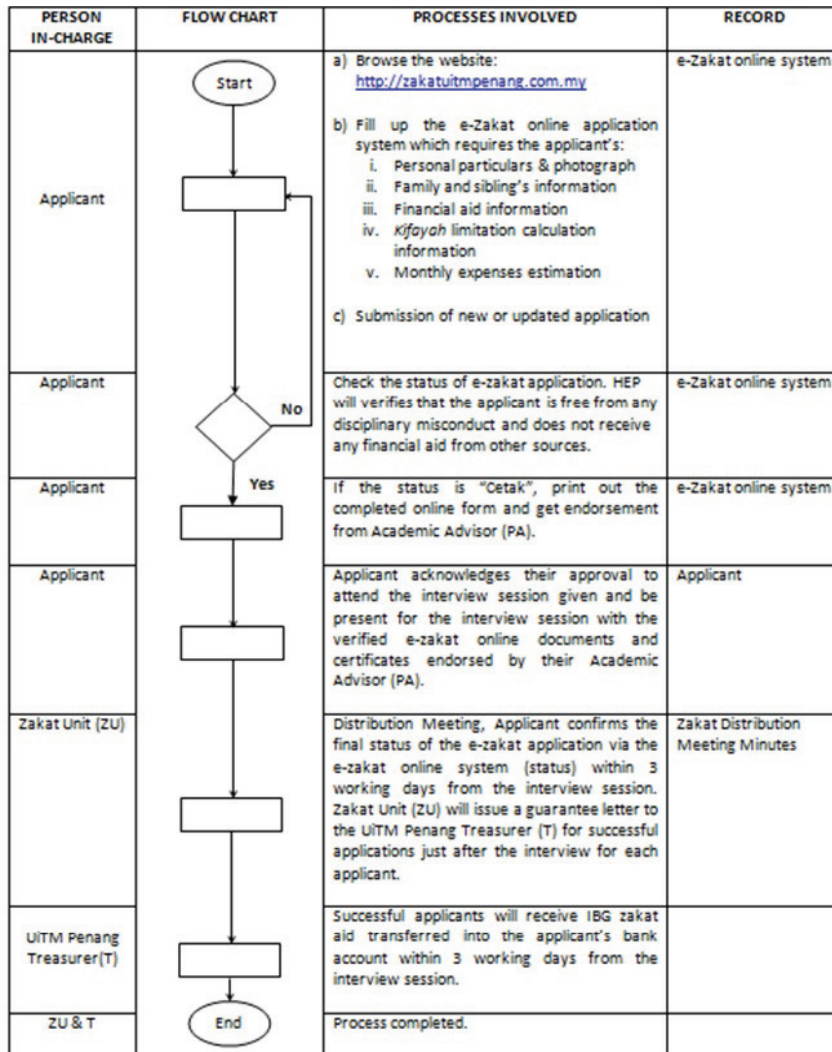


Figure 13: eZakat Application Procedures Flow Chart

The use of eZakat whereby most procedures can be done easily online has resulted in improving efficiency in the following processes:

1. Application and submission of zakat aid
2. Verifying disciplinary and financial status of applicants by HEP
3. Printing out completed online form by applicants
4. Acknowledgement of applicant's interview session
5. Displaying of Zakat Aid application results
6. Issuing guarantee letter to Treasurer from Zakat Unit

In addition, for the purposes of meetings, applicant's selection, decision making processes and documentation, the system administrators from Zakat Unit are able to generate desired reports either in table form, Microsoft Excel sheet format or illustrated via pie chart layout using eZakat system as mentioned earlier in Figure 12.

eZakat has greatly assisted in the zakat application and distribution management to zakat applicants, Zakat Unit staffs, HEP staffs as well as Treasury Unit of UiTM Pulau Pinang. Since the implementation of eZakat for the students of UiTM Pulau Pinang, the

number of applicants from January 2015 to May 2015 as compared to the same duration in 2014 has increased more than 100% especially in March, April and May. Nevertheless, only a small number of students applied for zakat fund through eZakat system in January and February 2015 due to all engineering students registered for engineering courses in that particular semester in UiTM Pulau Pinang were relocated to a new engineering campus in Pasir Gudang, Johor. Hence, the intake of new students are very low during that two months. The following table shows the number of applicants from January 2015 to March 2015 as compared to 2014.

Table 1 : Number of Applicants for eZakat System

MONTH	2014	2015	PERCENTAGE (%)
January	28	1	-
February	31	15	-
March	23	175	661%
April	19	60	215.8%
May	1	15	1400%

Table 1 shows that eZakat is convenient for entitled applicants to apply zakat aid easily via online system without any obstacle or bureaucracy. The prior procedures of zakat application amongst students were responded without much interest due to the long process and queue of zakat application. Since the implementation of e-Zakat to UiTM Pulau Pinang students, the duration of zakat application has reduced from one to two weeks as compared to the prior system which took about two to four weeks to approve the application. eZakat has reduce the duration of application and this encouraged more students to apply the zakat for their own benefits.

Future works on this system to expand and enhance its existing modules and fulfilling new requirements are still on-going. It has potential to be commercialized and is able to serve as a resourceful assistance to higher institution's Zakat Unit for better delivery service and a more competent zakat distribution management.

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